

LIFE'S MORALE BOOSTER



OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 1976

ROBERT LOVELL

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*U.F.O.E.S.P. is a tax-paying, grass-roots, philosophical organization dedicated to education and propaganda: education of the general public and propaganda directed to the Nation's space policy makers concerning the importance, necessity and urgency of an expanded space program.

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STIMULUS.

January → → → → → 1, 1977

RESPONSE

"...I have to tell you now, honestly, I don't have much feeling at all about my past office in U.F.O.E.S.P. I was just too far away from it all: from you, even from myself in many ways. No doubt there are going to be many new strong members; it is inevitable and wonderful. I look forward to joining again this coming year as I really miss the Morale Booster, memoranda, petitions; in short I need [this] kind of news. . ."
Ginette Stamnitz, 2808-21 Mi. Rd., RR2, Kent City MI 49330

Not uncommonly, letters are quoted for the object lessons they provide about the Space Revolution. Naturally all letters are printed for their intrinsic interest. But the Board of Governors likes also on occasion to draw the membership's attention to less obvious or subtle aspects of communications to the Board. Your letter, Ginette, is such a case.

The most basic lesson is the fundamentally petty nature of construction of the Space Revolution. There are two components to this construction, those of "software" and "hardware". The hardware of the Revolution consists of the rockets, computers, gantries, satellites, life-support systems, and other such paraphernalia physically responsible for the exploration and exploitation of outer space. The software is concerned with the public relations, philosophical implications, intellectual challenges, political factors and other social phenomena which embody the motivation, organization, and disposition of the hardware. For spacer organizations such as U.F.O.E.S.P., whose primary focus is upon software of the Revolution, the tools, resources, and products used to further the expansion of civilization off planet are conferences, media publicity, interviews, speeches, paintings, music, films, and magazines like Morale Booster or the L-5 News. Though the finished products in each case resemble (hopefully) integrated, holistic, and subtle realities, the processes leading to them consist of a host of mundane, piecemeal, and simple acts or bits. Although you are not a member now and your letter does not deal directly with discussions in previous issues of MB, your communication does provide some insight and stimulation for production of MB, another bit of a process of construction of the Space Revolution. The pettiness, of course, of the overall task is, of course, one of the greatest obstacles to maintenance of morale during the struggle to turn this nation around on space. But it is also a consolation in that everyone can know and do some vital part, however haphazardly or limited, in the expansion of humanity off planet.

A second lesson is embodied in your remarks. "No doubt there are going to be many new strong members; it is inevitable and wonderful. I look forward to joining again. . ." Since there are indeed many tens of thousands of active space revolutionaries among the hundreds of thousands of space enthusiasts, some of whom belong to U.F.O.E.S.P., the catalytic effects of these space revolutionaries will ensure the strengthening of our organization and the deepening of the Revolution. It is most important that we continually realize this general trend for the work on the ground can often seem tedious, slow, and ineffectual. We cannot be placid about the progress of the Space Revolution; we cannot rest on the laurels of "inevitability" to bring the fantastic futures we see and desire to being. But we can remember that the end result is never in doubt as long as those

who understand the future and present necessity of solar system colonization keep the faith, Ginette, and keep plugging away with those petty acts of revolution.

A final lesson revolves about the importance of the "kind of news" produced by U.F.O.E.S.P. in its efforts to mobilize the masses for space. There is no question in anyone's mind, in or out of the organization, that Morale Booster represents a more intimate, if not more informal, publication than those printed by other groups such as the National Space Institute or FASST. But the purpose of the magazine is not reportage but analysis of the spacer events which determine the form and content of the colonization of the solar system. Although no one on the Board claims that the discussions in these pages is more vital than that in more conventional publications, we all proclaim our conviction that the underpinnings of the Space Revolution must be fully explicated and disseminated to the millions of spacers upon which the success of the Revolution rests if that success is to be Pyrrhic or truly heroic. Forward! Analyze! Disseminate! To the stars!

". . . Enclosed is a check for UFOESP to order the book A Forecast of Space Technology 1980-2000 with the appropriate forms to get it. Please obtain and add to your library. . .

"Also enclosed herewith is an interview you may not have seen and which I discovered by poring through the pages of a seamy (if torrid) issue of Penthouse. . . Low and behold there [the interview] sat between those nether lips of prurient interest and ever-present spreadeagled lascivious thighs of this month's turn on for millions of horny folks. Anyway, there was Penthouse and Gene Rodenberry of Star Trek fame. Note that he/they are evidently producing a Star Trek full-length movie for all of us space-hungry people with hyperactive imaginations. Bet it'll get a lot of people if they ever actually do make it. It's got me!

"Please add [the interview] to your (hopefully) growing library. Incidentally, I am going to quit asking but I will try one more time: have you been getting Co-Evolution Quarterly, and seen the articles on space travel I've been telling you about? Yes or no, dammit!

"I enjoyed [the] July Morale Booster and wish I had time and space to debate some of it with you although, as an essay with some erudition, it is overall good stuff. Just remember we are all in the space thing for a LOT OF DIVERSE and some personal reasons--some of which will never be identical to any one other person's. Among other things, in a world where solutions are coming so slowly, I cannot in any way share your orientation without a lot of reservations about trying to cope with the here-and-now world if not first, then as a concession to multiplicity, at least simultaneous with the space option. It is just a way to keep my options open and thus keep my spirit alive and thriving. I think we have an obligation to try to help prevent WWII no matter how seemingly impossible that may be.

"Now on to the reason for this letter, re: COMNET. COMNET is a networking group with an office in Seattle. I have known the folks for a number of years. They are all good people--crazy for working for an idea without having a lot of personal monetary needs met first--but then that holds true for all of us in some degree or another. They publish Northwest Synergy Access, and are really into technology while having one foot in practical affairs of day-to-day life. One of those things is the Star Trek Conference in January.

"Since [The] Evergreen [Land Trust and I] are members of their information exchange/network, we asked a staff person to attend and report on the events of the annual meeting held weeks back. I was reading the report he wrote and we all exchange to keep up-to-date, this soon after reading the Star Trek-Rodenberry interview, and that day, your letter commenting on

Cynthia [Randall's]. . . 'direction'. It occurred to me, after reading on with the meeting report, that since COMNET people were short of help; since they, as one of their activities, help sponsor and caretake the annual North West Star Trek Conference; and since Cynthia is [associated with] U.F.O.E.S.P. and has all this creative energy. . . Well, you can see where I was tending.

"Why don't you give her a call, Leader, and ask her to call Ed Goehring or Margot Gabbard at 206-524-6359. . . or stop by their home/office at 1531 North East 63rd, Seattle WA 98115 and talk with them. I suspect they'd welcome the offer of help.

"It would focus. . . energy on a cause of space progress and overall it would be in concert with Evergreen/U.F.O.E.S.P./and COMNET as well. The Conference is to be the 29th and 30th of January and last year there was good press coverage and about 800-1000 people. Maybe Cynthia would. . . recruit for U.F.O.E.S.P., et. al. . . Cynthia could also contact the Trekkers' group directly by telephoning 206-789-4581 (6207 7th N.W., Seattle WA 98107). . .

"Listen: I suggest you begin to think about a brochure or some sort of communication that describes what U.F.O.E.S.P. is and HOW IT IS DIFFERENT FROM OR SIMILAR TO OTHER EXISTING SPACE PROMOTION GROUPS. If you just had a few hundred there at the Conference as handouts, it might be of value. Cynthia, other members, or even myself might then be able to talk with people who were interested enough to contact us through the brochure.

"Do what you will, but if you DO want to take the suggestion, DO it SOON. . . ."

Thomas P. Bahr, 1282 Lake Drive Road RR 3, Sedro-Woolley WA 98284

Re: Co-Evolution Quarterly. Yes!

U.F.O.E.S.P. always deeply appreciates donations to the library whether they be of actual books, pamphlets, or magazines or money for same. Spacers must endeavor to keep abreast of new knowledge every single day. There is no hope of "catching up" with the great streams of data coming in from hundreds of thousands of scientists and technologists over the world. In fact, it is irrelevant if knowledge grows faster than we can assimilate it for we can simply store it in our computers until someone or our brains evolve to deal with it. Until that great information (electronic) storage stage, we build our libraries. One of the vital tasks of any spacer organization is the accumulation of useful information for its membership and others outside it who need to deepen their awareness or understanding of the Space Revolution. The Science Advisory Committee has been established to facilitate this function of education and the organization seeks to strengthen the committee's efforts through expansion of the library. One of the nicest rewards of sending delegations to spacer events is that there are always program books, literature, etc. produced for those who join or attend. Thanks again!

For many months, the Board of Governors has been attempting to forge links with the Star Trek community through many channels. We are beginning to see the fruition of some of these efforts and we intend to commit an even larger portion of the organization's resources to interactions with Star Trek groups in the coming months. We hope that all members encourage contacts with Star Trek fan and report to the Board any promising information about conventions, personnel contacts, organizational developments, etc. related to these devotees of space.

Without a doubt, U.F.O.E.S.P. should have a handy brochure giving concise but dense information about its activities and goals to distribute

at spacer events of all sorts and the Board has undertaken to have such a brochure prepared. In areas such as these the membership can be of great help for they can produce many of these basic promotional items themselves, either writing them or underwriting their printing. The differences between U.F.O.E.S.P. and others are many though the similarities are significant and it is important for spacers to understand the limitations (and potentialities) of the organizations fighting for their dreams. We need to publicize ourselves but we also need to work in the field for the Revolution more importantly. Thus, this brochure has been delayed when it might seem logical to have it from the beginning. In any event, awareness of the organization grows from our other activities and our detailed nature will be heightened by this growing visibility in the Space Revolution.

"Thank you very much for your letter of December 15. I have been aware that my membership is about to expire. I had every intention of sending another cheque until I received an invitation for a charter membership to the National Space Institute. It has the same goals as U.F.O.E.S.P. but is a much larger and effective organization, at least so I believe. Its membership includes such prestigious people such as Isaac Asimov, Arthur C. Clarke, Jacques Cousteau, James Van Allen, and Werhner von Braun. I feel that an effort to influence space programs can work best if the people are united. I know that U.F.O.E.S.P. is small and not very influential; if it were the only group, I would stick with it. But, as you know, there are many small groups; and it doesn't look as though a federation is in the offing. The NSI is already large and organized enough to do things about which U.F.O.E.S.P. and similar groups only dream. So I'm putting my money where I think it will do the most good.

"I think this is a good group for all U.F.O.E.S.P. members to consider joining. For information, write to National Space Institute, Suite 408, 1911 North Fort Myer Drive, Arlington, VI 22209. A senior membership is \$15 a year. Those under 18 may join for \$9. A life membership is, I believe, \$300. And a trustee membership is \$1000 or more per year. This is a non-profit organization.

"I am not exactly abandoning you, but I must place my limited funds where I believe it will achieve the most good. As I am a frequenter of SF conventions, I will undoubtedly see you or other U.F.O.E.S.P. members at some of them.

"Best of luck in the future."

R. Laurraine Tutihasi, 18 Candlewood Drive, Pittsford NY 14534

"Aha!" no doubt some of the readers are thinking, "Here come some object lessons!" And the readers who have this response are quite correct. Some of the most important object lessons are to be found in this letter. Perhaps the initial lesson to draw is the fallacy of calculation of effectiveness of spacer groups on the basis of prestigious members or size of budget. For one thing, many of the prestigious people to back the Space Revolution are not new to the public or Congress and have been long recognized as partisans, advocates, biased individuals on space. So though we would dearly love to have Arthur C. Clarke or Dr. James van Allen as members of U.F.O.E.S.P., it is not for their prestige value but for their imaginations or pocket books or connections. Their prestige is not very useful. Now, one may argue that the imaginations, pocket books, etc. in question may be the basis for the prestige; but it is also clear that the prestige itself can have value apart from its

basis. However, when the cause in question is so closely allied to the prestige of the person supporting it as in the case of science-fiction writers and the Space Revolution, then the value of the prestige plummets. Of course, Isaac Asimov supports space, says the random individual. He's made a fortune off it, the person would continue, but what's in it for me?

Another object lesson concerns Laurraine's remarks on many small groups abounding & being ineffectual. Spacers, rather than feeling pity at the proliferation of space promotion organizations, should feel excitement. True, most will remain small or local. But each gives a feeling of wider community to the spacers who belong, each gives experience in working for a national cause, each provides important information dissemination functions for the Space Revolution. More important, too, than absolute size are the dedication, discipline, and philosophy of the organization. We must remember that NASA, the supreme spacer organization with a budget of billions and a workforce in the tens of thousands, overflowing with prestigious people must fight tooth and tail in Congress these days for the most prosaic and modest projects. So all spacers are pretty ineffectual when you get to the BIG PICTURE, and that's the screen that counts.

Many other points might be made but we will confine ourselves to one more. Although groups such as the National Space Institute have capabilities beyond U.F.O.E.S.P.'s with regard to money, prestige, size, etc., U.F.O.E.S.P. has capabilities which these others lack. One of the most important is a much broader, in fact unbounded as long as we are honest, field-and-freedom for action we possess by virtue of being tax-paying rather than non-profit. In order to qualify for non-profit tax status one has to limit the activities of the organization to education and humanitarian or scientific purposes. In a word, the organization must at least maintain the pretense of non-partisanship. But the Space Revolution cannot succeed without partisans dedicated to its realization. Groups such as L-5 or the National Space Institute or FASST can spread the general word about O'Neill Habitats or Space or science. They can report political events or social developments which aid their interests. They can draw up endless technological plans and give speeches to all imaginable community groups on the need for the realization of their dreams. Well, U.F.O.E.S.P. can do all of that, too. But it can do things that these others cannot. It can support specific political candidates for their space views, give them money, donate time, publicize their runs for office. U.F.O.E.S.P. can lobby Congress directly for specific space bills, organize street demonstrations, in fact do all sorts of things about which the National Space Institute or International Committee for a New Planet or L-5 can only dream of doing. The organization can, for another example, undertake ventures to make a profit! We say there are billions to be made in space. U.F.O.E.S.P., unlike nearly all other spacer organizations, has the potential to make part of those fortunes since it chooses to refuse non-profit, tax-exempt status.

"...If U.F.O.E.S.P. has any difficulty finding pro-space candidates to support in elections, have you ever thought of forming your own political party? (Do you recall Robert Heinlein's comments on the histories and origins of the then-existent parties in Double Star?) Such may or may not be the best way to go--but it's a thought I decided to throw your way. . ."

Larry Friesen, 502 South Austin No. 17, Webster TX 77598

U.F.O.E.S.P. has not considered seriously the possibility of

ITSELF forming a political party, through evolution or independent creation, although the Board of Governors has long recognized the necessity of the eventual consolidation of the forces of the Space Revolution behind a political movement or party for the firm success of the Spacer Dream. With the spacer population barely beginning to organize; with its elements and primary forces isolated, disparate, and unco-ordinated; it is simply premature to talk about a political party of U.F.O.E.S.P.'s or any other's design. The continuing process of new spacer organizations arising by the month across the country must be deepened considerably and extended to much higher levels of co-ordination and integration of diverse spacer organizations before spacers can speak SERIOUSLY about the (actual) (impending) formation of a political party.

In the interim, the primary task is the catalyzation of the spacer population to determined, intense activity whose political consequences will be the expansion of the nation's space program in a radical way. In order to succeed in this effort, spacers must begin with themselves and must accept the reality that the glamorous organization and confrontation of spacers with the political establishment will come much later. We must begin with the prosaic and simple yet absolutely essential process of SIGNING SPACERS UP WITH THE REVOLUTION. This process has two basic expressions: the enlistment of spacers in particular organizations (ourselves, U.F.A., National Space Club, International Committee for a New Planet, etc.) and, more importantly, the enlistment of these same organizations into a broad coalition/federation to fight for outer space. It is imperative that spacers realize the essential UNITY of all spacers, no matter whether their pet project is an L-5 Habitat, interstellar planetary probes, classic Lunar colony, or what have you. If spacers do not bear this thought constantly in mind; if we indulge in the provincial, egotistical, self-righteous political back-biting and one-up-manship of the major parties; then spacers will never witness serious consideration of their proposals and we will always be an ineffectual, perhaps amusing, fringe group. Certainly the Democrats and Republicans can afford factional competition but they are not only very large organizations but they are also unitary entities. But spacers do not have one or two major groups to which they owe allegiance, they have six or seven or a dozen. Furthermore, these organizations' membership rolls total a few tens of thousand of individuals, though the potential membership is a few million. Until the L-5 Society has six or seven thousand members, until U.F.O.E.S.P. has a similar number on its rolls, until the National Space Institute has scores of thousands of people in its ranks, until the organized segment of the spacer population numbers a few hundred thousand individuals, then the watchword, keystone, and guiding light of the Space Revolution must be co-operation, co-ordination, UNITY.

One last remark on this matter, Larry. When we speak of a coalition or federation of spacer forces, we do not speak of some highly organized super spacer organization whose interests or efforts supercede those of the individual organizations comprising the coalition. To a great extent, the co-ordination of spacer forces envisioned is a co-ordination arising from projects of the moment, local initiative, and the informal connections of the leaders of the various spacer groups across the country. Spacers do not need, nor should they desire, monolithic structures, institutions, philosophies, interests, organizations or goals. All this may sound idealistic and impractical but in fact, without such attitudes and understandings of the political problems before all spacers, the space program in this country will be a relic long before spacers exert effective influence on space policy. *****

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX Interlude 4 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

The search for extraterrestrial intelligence has begun!

The Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California has announced a search for extraterrestrial intelligence will get underway in October of 1978. At that time, scientists will begin to scan the heavens using a new signal processing technique that analyzes millions of frequency channels, simultaneously, in search of extraterrestrial civilizations.

Designed and developed in cooperation with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Ames Research Center, which is located near San Francisco, the JPL Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI) program is described as a "modest" but serious beginning. This initial step, using existing earth-based radio telescopes may lead, in time, to a SETI program involving construction of large antennas in space or, perhaps, on the moon--away from radio interference from the planet Earth.

The announcement comes in the wake of an appeal from Nobel Laureate Sir Martin Ryle (a member of Britain's Astronomer Royal) to refrain from making known the existence of intelligent life on the planet Earth, for fear that we could be invaded by hostile beings.

Sir Martin has taken his plea that radio astronomers should not beam powerful signals to distant stars and galaxies to the International Astronomical Union and the American Astronomical Society. SETI scientists argue that the emphasis of their programs is on listening, with no thought at this time of transmitting. However, Sir Martin points out that such has not been the case as powerful radio signals have already been sent from the Arecibo Radio Telescope in Puerto Rico, and from a project to map the planets with strong radar pulses.

The Forum for the Advancement of Students in Science and Technology (FASST), and the student programs division of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), are now finalizing plans for a symposium to be held for an in-depth discussion of the SETI program and its implications. The program will be held February 24-25, 1977 at the Ames Research Center with leading scientists, philosophers, anthropologists, and sociologists meeting with interested college and university students and faculty to discuss "The Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence".

For those wishing additional information or registration material, contact: FASST/SETI, 1785 Massachusetts Avenue N.W., Washington DC 20036. (202) 483-2900, or the AMES RESEARCH CENTER, (415) 965-5543.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX Interlude 4 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

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On October 29, 1974 United For Our Expanded Space Programs was born with a simple, even simple-minded, vision of ten thousand bumper stickers proclaiming SPACE IS THE PLACE all across the nation. The impetus for the creation of U.F.O.E.S.P. was essentially a politico-philosophical one no matter how prosaic its conception. Though the organization has undergone numerous changes since its beginning, the message it carries and the thrust of its work remains politico-philosophical. The year past has been the reaffirmation of the initial vision: Generalized National Public Support of the Exploration and Exploitation of Space.

The year 1974-75 saw the establishment of the basic organizational structure of U.F.O.E.S.P. though our work was concentrated upon the space policy makers rather than the (spacer) public. The year 1975-76 which has just passed saw our energies and attention shift to the education of

the spacer masses as to the necessity of rapid organization and deployment of spacer forces as well as increased attention to our own, idiosyncratic organizational work. In the future 1976-77 focus will concentrate upon an advanced mixture of organizational, educational, and political projects. These shifts in resource concentration are necessitated by the Board of Governors' decision from the outset of the enterprise to build an organization of depth through methodical deployment of its forces. Then, too, one must not forget the dispersed character of the Space Revolution's resources and engagements and its effect upon our work.

The second year of U.F.O.E.S.P.'s existence began with a major undertaking: the expedition to Australia by the Treasurer, Linda Strickler, and the President, Graham Maughan, which resulted in the establishment of Far Centaurus Chamber. In other forums, the reasons for the expedition and the detailed results have been presented. It is simply sufficient for the members' pride to recall the results of Midamericon and the expedition itself which translated into two native members of the Chamber. In addition, an embryonic network of connections and contacts has been created which will be readily translated into a highly visible organization when attention is focused upon the network in Australia. As a pioneering nation, as the most urbanized culture in the world, as an integral part of the United States space program's tracking and monitoring network, Australia well deserves what resources U.F.O.E.S.P. can devote to its catalyzation for the Space Revolution.

The Spring of 1976 was a growing season, so to speak, in quiet and preparation for the Summer and Fall activities. However, we did place an ad for two months in Fantasy and Science-Fiction which resulted in the sale of well over a hundred bumper (now and by then, door) stickers. It was also at this time that U.F.O.E.S.P. became acquainted with the L-5 Society, a relationship which has grown with time with mutual co-operation at spacer events to deliver the Revolution's message as well as many mutual members (and honorable mention more than once in each other's publications). Jeff Bytof, for example, is both San Diego Co-ordinator for the L-5 Society and Assistant President for Interorganizational Affairs for U.F.O.E.S.P. And it was also at this time that the concept of CHRYSE-1 was born, whose realization is the primary task for this new year.

Summer, the height of the Bicentennial fervor, found the organization beginning its great convention forays of the last half of the year. In the months of June and July, the organization reached the peak of its benefits from the Fantasy and Science-Fiction advertisements and the kind words about us in the L-5 News. August began the convention round with the Western Amateur Astronomers annual convention in San Marcos, California, where U.F.O.E.S.P. cooperated on distribution of L-5 Society literature and some doorstickers of our own and held useful discussions with Mark Shields and Jim Parker of L-5 and Jeff Bytof, our then newly-appointed Assistant President for Interorganizational Affairs. The western amateur astronomers were (and are I suspect) cautious characters and so both organizations had to content themselves with exposure, cadre experience, and a little money to show that it wasn't all completely hot air.

For U.F.O.E.S.P., the cadre experience was invaluable for, two weeks after the WAA convention, we sent the major delegation of the year to Kansas City and Midamericon, the 34th World Science-Fiction Convention. We had spectacular results! The membership trebled, the Board of Governors expanded to include two dynamic people in Robert Lovell (Assistant President for Light Industry) and Ivan Clark (General Secretary--Vega Chamber), and stronger contacts were made with the L-5 Leadership, to name only the most important results. The positive response has continued to this day and we have every expectation of its continuance into the new year.

The critical task for any group seeking to mobilize political forces is the maintenance of momentum in the group's activities, propaganda, and growth. The peak of Midamericon could be especially savored with the successful conclusion of the Fall delegation campaign in October with the representation of the organization at a Star Trek Event in Kansas City and the student seminar at JPL on the Search for Life in the Solar System. These delegations extended the range of groups to which we have appealed pretty much across the Board from romantic to hard science audiences. In these instances, as the ones related so far, the organization gained new members and made yet greater contacts with the leadership, not only of L-5, but also of FASST and the United Futurist Association. These interactions, though sandwiched between program items and too brief to permit intense discussion of anything, nonetheless serve to introduce the participants to the range and depth of the organized spacer forces.

In large part, the activities of the past year together comprise a national survey of the Space Revolution and so it is appropriate to consider what we have learned about the forces deployed, the major questions of interest, power centers, and so on. To begin with the number of serious organizations in the field, it is most heartening to note not only the large number of well-established groups (at least a dozen) but the continuing appearance of new organizations. Certainly, the memberships vary in size and activity with all spacer groups, but the increase in visibility of such organizations is the strongest evidence of the growth of organization of the spacer masses. We must be honest with ourselves and recognize the sometimes faltering characteristic or quality of effort of each and any spacer organization so that these deficits can be eliminated. But we must also realize that as the spacer masses become more organized through more and larger organizations such as ourselves or the Network or L-5 or the National Space Club, the masses collide with one another more and so heat up the Revolution.

A second understanding from the past year's work is the wide variety of groups, a variety so great that the overlap from one to another is not nearly as large as one might expect. Space is simple, someone might say, stars, planets, galaxies, dust, and vacuum! It's all so alien, such a person might continue, that everything would be pretty uniform from one place to another in terms of human adaptation. Thus, one might conclude, that those interested in going off planet would have great similarity of backgrounds, knowledge, etc., and their representative organizations would reflect this conclusion, too. In truth, our understandings of space environments are so limited, the regions for activity so immense, the possibilities of exploitation so numerous that the combinations of possible interests, philosophies, resources, etc. of the spacer groups are uncountable. Okay, a little exaggeration, but it is nonetheless true that if one investigates the many spacer groups one discovers quite an array of specimens. We hope to demonstrate this observation with beginning discussions or reprints of their own statements of these various organizations in some early issues of MB in the new year. In any event, here is further evidence of the strength of the Space Revolution since its success will depend upon breadth as well as depth in the struggle to turn this nation around on space.

One last observation is the confirmation of the Board of Governors' fundamental tenet that unity is necessary for the success of the Space Revolution in our lifetimes. Groups, like individuals, have egos and so there is a great deal of inertia towards autonomy among spacer organizations just as there is in individual lives. But the forces are so scattered, the intervening populace so hostile to the space program as presently constituted, the nervous habits of the government so ingrained with welfare schemes,

cozy relations with corporate America, and entrenched pork-barrel politics that spacers can never hope to overcome their obstacles without the closest cooperation along a most broad front. There is more than enough space for full expression of each component of the coalition's particular interests. There are far fewer differences between spacers than between spacers and the nation as a whole. The differences which are present will lead to friction and frustration but the number is so relatively small that there is no reason for an inherent domination of spacer relations by these differences. It is not enough to devote one's life or commit all one's resources to the expansion of civilization off planet. Spacers, each and all, must also forge greater resources through their cooperative interaction and commonality of vision.

So we come to the third year beginning for U.F.O.E.S.P. and what we can now see as the work before the organization. Primary consideration must go to CHRYSE-1, not only for all the labor and resources already invested in its realization, but for the proven necessity of its work through the surveys of the past year of the spacer population. Furthermore, the convocation well symbolizes the balanced emphasis for our third year on internal and external organization of the spacer population. There will be many delegations to conventions from east to west, north to south. A Star Trek Conference (PSST Con II) in late January, Desert Con V, Ames SETI Conference and Unitarian Excursion in February, and the summer convention blast of CHRYSE, Westercon, and Suncon are already planned; and the Board of Governors seeks other pregnant possibilities. We cannot let up our efforts to galvanize the spacer masses through direct, forward presentation of our analysis at the grass roots.

But our justification is founded not in our membership drives and public performances to promote U.F.O.E.S.P. but in our efforts to influence the space-policy makers to make a radical recommitment of America to space. In our first year, we sent three Petitions to the People's Representatives detailing the case for space. Long delayed, the Fourth and Fifth Petitions, in quite modified form, will be major parts of our delegations in the Spring and Summer of this third year. These petitions will be stereotypic ones with gathering of signatures the objective. It has been discussed by the Treasurer with reference to the IDEA BIN and there is every reason to do our utmost to produce, distribute and fill these petitions to send to Congress as the beginning of our 1977-78 campaign. We hope to do even more but it is far too early to decide upon more definite projects than these. Ample allowance must be made for unexpected (and enormous) developments to our benefit arising from the work already planned. The prospects are exciting. The omens are good. U.F.O.E.S.P. has made its second year the second foundation of a mighty edifice to come, already creating, embryonic and destined to MATTER and ENERGY in the Space Revolution.

++++ J. Graham Maughan

" what are you trying to prove?"

by Robert A. Lovell, Jr. APLI.

The name of this organization is United For Our Expanded Space Programs. I don't know about the rest of you, but I joined UFOESP because I believe that the future of the human race lies Out There, and I wanted to try to do something to help make all of my science-fiction dreams come true. So, now we have the beginnings of a loose organization, a small (but growing) group of dedicated spacers. Before too much time passes, we are going to have to answer some basic questions, questions like: "What do we, as a group, hope to accomplish?" and "How are we going to achieve our goals?"

The answer to the first question is obvious, or should be; in fact, the name of the organization tells it all. We want to expand our space programs (and if you do not share that goal, why did you join?). Of course, that raises other questions, the ones the infidels ask, like "Why should we waste money on space when there's so much to do here on Earth?" Well, I'll get to that in a later article in Morale Booster, but I'm sure most of you have a gut feeling, as I do, that the exploitation of the literally infinite energy and natural resources of space, and the opening of a new and endless frontier can solve most of our basic problems here on Earth. The energy crisis, pollution, getting away from those forces and people who would like to dominate us. . . Space can do for us what America did for the "huddled masses yearning to be free" of the last two centuries.

We must strive, therefore, to do whatever is necessary to increase interest in (and support for) space exploration and development. And that brings us to the second question, "How. . .?" Well, it's okay to sit back and receive the Morale Boosters in the mail, and go to science-fiction conventions and discuss the future with like-minded space enthusiasts, but none of these things will add a dime to NASA's budget, and without an expanded NASA budget, there can be no expanded space programs.

It's as simple as that. It's fine and dandy to talk about the coming "space revolution", but talking among ourselves is not going to make it happen. We must become active! We must become missionaries and spread the Word to the great mass of apathetic, unformed humanity. And we must start writing letters to Congress and President Carter, asking where our elected leaders stand on this vital issue. We must present our views to those in our society who have the money and the power, the people who can make it happen. Sure, I'd like to organize a letter-writing campaign to inundate Washington with hundreds of thousands of letters and petitions from pro-space voters. Look at what the Star Trek fans did in naming the space shuttle "Enterprise". That was a significant event; there really are hundreds of thousands of us out here, a lot of people who believe in space, who want the future to be as bright and positive as Star Trek showed it can be. It was significant, but it was a small victory, nonetheless.

We need to repeat this kind of act again and again. Think of the things we could ask for, right now: Money for a Large Space Telescope, a robot probe to make a close fly-by (or even a fly-through) of Halley's Comet when it returns in 1986, a robot "prospector" to search for valuable minerals in the Asteroid Belt, a prototype Solar Power Satellite to test the feasibility of (and avoid the ecological dangers of) large scale orbital solar energy stations, another Skylab to test new industrial processes in hard vacuum and zero gravity, or perhaps just enough money to keep the Space Shuttle program going at full strength until the 1980s.

A major problem we face is that money for space is seen as a bad thing by many of the people in this country, and the vote-seeking politicians don't see too many votes in pushing for an expanded space program. And as long as we remain silent, the politicians will continue to spend less on space and more on things that will help them get re-elected. We must make ourselves heard!

We don't have thousands of members. . .yet, but we will someday. We cannot wait until we do have a thousand members (and the political clout that they can bring to bear); we've got to start writing now, just to let those idiots in Washington know that we exist, just to keep the space program fresh in their minds. We must ask our elected representatives where they stand on space appropriations; if they are sympathetic to our cause, we must encourage them to keep spending our tax money on something useful and worthwhile; if they are hostile or neutral on space, we must concentrate on them, let them know that how we vote in the next election will depend on how they vote on the NASA budget.

Fortunately, we have allies and friends in our crusade. There are organizations that can supply us with information and help us coordinate our political efforts. The big aerospace companies, like Space Shuttle contractor Rockwell International, have lobbyists and heavy PR efforts. Send for Rockwell's free booklet, "WHY Space is Important to Our Future", from the Public Relations Dept., Rockwell International Space Division, 12214 Lakewood Blvd., Downey CA 90241. This is a pro-space pamphlet that

tells what space has already provided us, things like better weather forecasting, etc. A similar booklet can be obtained from NASA itself: send a request to NASA, Washington DC 20546, for a copy of "SPINOFF 1976". It might cost something (I'm not sure but you might get one for free from your Congressman), but whatever the cost, it contains a lot of info that helps answer the questions about why we spend so much money on space, and how many things we have gotten from the space program so far. I've heard figures in the range of 14 to 1 for how much return on investment the space program has provided; for every tax dollar we have spent on space, we have gotten back fourteen in new products and services (and not just Teflon frying pans, but really important stuff like medical technology and new industrial processes).

There are also other space-oriented organizations, like the L-5 Society (memberships \$20.00 per year; write to L-5 Society, 1620 North Park Avenue, Tucson AZ 85719), Earth/Space, Inc., the Network (SMI²LE), and others. The most important of all these other groups, and one that I would recommend that we all join, is Dr. W. von Braun's National Space Institute, a "lobbying" organization with heavy ties to NASA and the aerospace industry. NSI could probably provide us with all the help we need in finding out which Congressmen are in favor of what, and what space projects need to be supported most. Annual dues are \$15.00 (\$9.00 for students). Write to National Space Institute, 1911 Fort Myer Drive, Arlington VA 22209.

We should also get in touch with the Star Trek people. They are very organized and have already proven their ability to sway the government. We should get the necessary information together, then write! Let the people with the power know that we are out here! We should talk with our friends and neighbors, try to convince them to join us. We should try to get other people to write to their representatives in Washington, too. We can even help compose the letters and provide a 13¢ stamp, if that is necessary to get positive results. One or two letters on a given subject will probably trigger a form letter or two from the Congressman's secretary. A dozen letters on a given subject will come to the boss's attention. More letters from concerned voters back home will result in action; "My God, there appears to be a whole new constituency out there, people who are actually worried about the future!"

We'd all better worry about the future. After all, we're going to be spending the rest of our lives living in it.

Voices. . . .

It is always refreshing to one who has committed life and mind and body to space to consider the technical progress of the Space Revolution. Even in those periods of low activity, there is consolation in the continual progress of planetary missions, technical studies, mundane spin-offs, etc. towards the colonization of the Solar System. This issue we will review the year to come and some of the current developments of interest.

The year 1976 no doubt will be recorded in the annals of history as the Year of Mars for the successful Viking 1 and 2 missions not only have revolutionized our understanding of the planet Mars but have also profoundly affected the course of the Space Revolution through their vivid portrayal of Mars as an eminently inhabitable planet for Earthkind. Perhaps the most exciting part of the Viking missions is the durability of the laboratories investigating the world. Safely situated on the surface, the two Viking landers are scheduled for as much as two more years of study and reportage. Functioning with precision unexpected by the designers, the two Viking orbiters will circle the planet for hundreds of years and could tell us about Mars that long if only the power would last. Although the biological findings have not been as dramatic one way or another as the public would have liked, there is growing conviction within the scientific community that Mars does indeed harbor life (see Time, January 24, 1977, pp. 83-84). With the biology experiments scheduled to run very extended incubation periods under close Martian simulated conditions, there should be no surprise if the end of 1977 brings a clear statement that life exists on another world. No matter what is known or said to

be true at that time, however, the remarkably detailed photographic survey of Mars by the orbiters and the site analyses of the landers insure a revolutionary new understanding of not only Mars but of much general science as well.

The year 1977 holds great promise for exciting developments in the actual conquest, figuratively speaking, of outer space. October 4, 1977 will be the 20th Anniversary of the launch of Sputnik I, which began the Space Revolution. The Russians, like all other peoples, enjoy very much celebrating their special events with exciting or spectacular projects. Although manned flight in space approaches the routine, manned missions still carry some sparkle and glamor. Since the United States will have only robot probes and satellites until the Space Shuttle goes into orbit beginning in the Spring of 1979, the Soviet Union might very well find it especially suiting to launch long-term manned mission(s) to celebrate the launch of Sputnik I. In this regard it is worth noting that the Los Angeles Times noted in its January 22 edition (part I, page 16) that the flight path of the Salyut 5 orbiting laboratory had been adjusted twice the previous week, bringing the space station close to the flight path used with the Soyuz 23 mission in October 1976. It is also worth recalling that the Soviet Union had three manned missions in 1976, one of which lasted 49 days. There is no question that the new year will be as active as the one past and all spacers must hope that whatever the Soviets have up their gantries that it is spectacular.

Certainly the year has planned exciting prospects. Beyond the continually fascinating Viking missions, 1977 will see the launch of a dual probe to Jupiter and Saturn, perhaps Uranus and Neptune as well. The Mariner Jupiter Saturn (MJS) mission will be launched in two parts, August 20 and September 1, and will not only examine the two largest planets but also will survey a good many of their moons. This mission will be the longest of any of the planetary probes and so will represent a new level of technology with reference to reliability of systems, trans-solar-system communications, etc. Such missions are important not only for the data gained and the evolution of space technology but also for the visions of grandeur which they transmit to wretched Earth. The Space Revolution to a large extent is fueled by dreams and the dramatic photographs returned from deepest space of Jupiter and Saturn cannot but give great impetus to the imaginative, creative forces of the Space Revolution. For an excellent discussion of MJS the reader is referred to Science News, January 1, 1977, pp. 10-14.

It is most exciting to think of the Space Revolution in terms of rockets blasting off to Mars or Venus and other such missions of exotic hardware. But spacers should not be unaware of the fantastic portents of abstract developments in experimental design, hypothesis, and theory. A recent flurry of interest in such an abstract development illustrates this point well. Newsweek (January 24, 1977, pp. 78-79) and Astronomy (February 1977, pp. 26-31) have noted the significant work of Stephen Hawking of Cambridge University, first reported in Scientific American (January 1977), on "mini-black holes". Einstein's General Theory of Relativity has, as one of its implications, black holes which are the remnants, as we all know, of enormous stars that have undergone final gravitational collapse. Although there has been some speculation that black holes of the size of galaxies might exist, this is the first time that anyone has looked at the matter on the quantum level. The serious reader is advised to consult one of the references given here, for space does not permit full discussion in these pages. But it is easy to be intrigued or excited about this work not only for the esoteric aspects of conceiving of the Universe at the time of the Big Bang (when the mini-black holes were formed) but also for the stimulating possibilities of these celestial phenomena with respect to the energy crisis. The industrialization of the planet, underway for well over 175 years has given humanity many lessons and one of the most important is the alacrity of the process of transition from esoteric object of theoretical discussion to practical device of routine use in the modern world. The Space Revolution builds wider bases of interest and power with even the most esoteric conceptions.

Spacers, educate yourselves along the widest interval of the celestial knowledge spectrum as you can. Pick up the scraps of information wherever they might be. Every expansion of the awareness of the spacer population is another advance to the stars. This poetry, this passion, this rhetorical flight may seem irrelevant, if not revolting, against the shine and sheen of the Révolution's hardware. But it is the fuel of it all!

Treasurer's Report

This issue of *Morale Booster* marks the end of two years of growth and development for U.F.O.E.S.P. As an officer of the organization, it has been very rewarding to observe the process of evolution which has been taking place. While our financial situation has never been as good as we might have hoped, still we have managed to survive these first bumpy years. Our current bills for reproduction of the MB as well as the usual cost of operation expenses are greater than our current treasury. But we look forward to income generated not only by attendance at conventions but also from advertisements which will be visible in the next few months. In my column this issue I want to speak about our upcoming visibility and how each of us may contribute to further growth in U.F.O.E.S.P. and as a consequence of that growth, a further expansion into Space by Earthkind.

As you may have been noticing, *Morale Booster* is going through a transition. This transition is being greatly facilitated by our Assistant President for Light Industry, Mr. Robert Lovell. His contributions have been of such proportions that he has prompted the creation of an award which has been tentatively called Big Benefactor Award of the Month (BBAM). Whether there will be anyone to merit this award every month remains to be seen--however, the first recipient has set quite a precedent in his contributions which it would behoove all of us to emulate! In scanning the pages of recent issues of MB it will be observed that Robert has contributed not only in written material but also in spacy artwork. We have a backlog of items from him waiting for the upcoming issues. I might also add that it is due to Bob that we are going to be able to catch up with our cover dates on MB. We thank you, Bob. You have lifted our spirits and boosted our morale tremendously.

I'm going to take the space to quote three advertisements which Robert wrote and inserted (\$150!!!) in upcoming issues of three different magazines. You will see the possibilities which he opens to us...

Fantasy and Science Fiction: "If the future belongs to those who plan for it, guess what happens to those who don't? Mankind is at a turning point in history and YOU can help decide if we go up to our true potential... or down like the dinosaurs. Our only hope for a long and successful future is to explore, exploit, and colonize the endless frontier of SPACE! If you want to help ensure that Mankind HAS a future, join us. We're UNITED FOR OUR EXPANDED SPACE PROGRAMS. Active memberships \$15.00. UFOESP, Box 7807, San Diego, Cal. 92107." [one time]

GALILEO [a new SF mag]: "MANKIND IS AT A TURNING POINT IN HISTORY! We have nowhere to go but up... or down. Earth is not room enough! Our only hope for a long and successful future is to explore, exploit, and colonize the endless frontier of SPACE! We are petitioning Congress, organizing a grassroots campaign to increase NASA's budget, etc. If you want to help shape the future, join us. We're UNITED FOR OUR ... etc." [one time]

GALAXY: "MANKIND IS AT A TURNING POINT IN HISTORY. We have nowhere to go but up, to a new golden age... or down, like the dinosaurs. YOU can help decide which way we go. Write to Congress! Organize! Our only hope for a long and successful future is to explore, exploit, and colonize the endless frontier of SPACE! We are organizing a grassroots campaign to increase NASA's budget, etc. If you want to help shape the future... if you want to help ensure that Mankind HAS a future... join us. We're UNITED FOR OUR ... etc." [three times]

* * * FLASH BULLETIN * * * FLASH BULLETIN * * * FLASH BULLETIN * * * FLASH

I interrupt my accolades of Robert to bring you news from his latest letter which only reflects his earnest desires to see the Space Revolution brought to ultimate fruition. He sent a news clipping [see below] which describes the desperate plight of the space budget and he urges all of us to write to the President. In that light, I am also going to quote the letters from two of the members of the Board of Governors to President Carter, written to him as private citizens concerned about the alarming news of possible budget cuts. It is most earnestly suggested that time not be wasted in this matter. Here is the news article, sent by Bob, from some Kansas City Newspaper, dated January 27, 1977 (emphasis added):

CARTER'S BUDGET CUTTERS SCRUTINIZE NASA By Robert J. Wagman, North American Newspaper Alliance. Washington--Facing an almost impossible timetable, President Carter's budget experts are looking at the proposed fiscal 1978 budget for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration as a likely place where cuts can be made and the money diverted to social programs.

Under the time restraints placed on President Carter by Congress, he must submit any changes he wants to make in the Ford proposal within 30 days.

In the budget message Gerald Ford sent to Congress in his last week as President, he proposed cutbacks in programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, food, housing and income security of about \$12 billion. Already the Carter team has said that most of these cuts are "unacceptable" and that Carter will move quickly to restore much of this money.

The new President wants to do this without greatly increasing the deficit that the Ford budget forecasts at \$41 billion for fiscal 1978. The NASA budget is a tempting target.

Ford's fiscal 1978 budget proposal requests \$4 billion for NASA, up \$295 million from the current year. One-third of the money would go to the space shuttle program.

The Ford proposal asks Congress to authorize the start of construction of three more space shuttle rocket planes so that by the early 1980s the United States will have five ships capable of making up to 60 annual round trips to orbit.

The proposed fiscal 1978 space spending plan also calls for the start of four new projects:

- A space telescope that will be placed in orbit by the shuttle in 1983 to operate as a major automated astronomical observatory at a cost of \$470 million in seven years;

- A television satellite to be launched in 1981 into orbit around Jupiter and an accompanying spacecraft to probe its atmosphere;

- A fourth Landsat Earth resources observation satellite, and

- A search-and-rescue satellite that would help locate downed aircraft and ships in distress.

Since last summer Carter's budget planners have been looking into government programs that could be postponed for one or two years to free money for additional social programs without upping the budget. The NASA budget has from the beginning been considered as a most likely place to start. Now it almost looks like a sure thing.

Carter's budget experts did not see the final Ford budget in detail until late last week. They were unsure of exactly what the outgoing President was going to propose.

One source close to the Carter budget team said, "The amount that Ford requested for the space shuttle and the new NASA programs surprised us. What we are now looking at is the possibility of postponing some of the

programs for a year or two or slowing down some of the new programs by a year or two."

Another Carter budget expert spoke of the obvious concern of the new administration for the proposed cuts in social programs represented by the Ford budget. He said, "I really don't think it is of the highest priority to the American people that we experiment with the atmosphere of Jupiter by the end of 1981 instead of, say, by the end of 1983. There is no thought on our part to do away with the space program, but if we as a nation have to tighten our belts to have a balanced budget by 1981, as Carter has promised, we will have to better order our priorities."

The problem that the Carter planners face is how to cut back without eliminating too many jobs. The key, apparently, will be to postpone, but not by so much that programs have to be shut down and workers laid off.

The space shuttle is scheduled to begin atmospheric flight tests next month and make its first flight into space in March, 1979. The shuttle, known as "The Enterprise," is to begin operation in 1980.

A Carter cutback would not affect this phase of the program. Instead, a cutback in fiscal 1978 would postpone the number of shuttle craft on hand by the early 1980s and the time when the program will be operational.

Now, I quote from the letter Robert sent with the above article:

...Second, take a look at the enclosed newspaper clipping. This could be Bad News of the first magnitude! This takes priority over everything else we have to worry about, as far as Expanded Space Programs are concerned. I have sent a copy of this article to the L-5 Society, urging them to tell all of their members to write directly to the President at the White House. I would urge you to reprint this article in the Morale Booster and distribute it too. We must all write, and get our friends and neighbors to write also. Not next week. Not tomorrow. Do it now... Today!!! This matter only underscores the point I've been trying to make recently. If we do not begin to make our point of view heard in Washington immediately, we will not be able to expand our space program; in fact, we may get to the point where we have no space program to expand in the first place! Like I said, this should take priority over everything else.

As I understand it, President Carter has until the last week in February to change the budget. Hopefully this period will be too short for him to decide where he wants to cut the budget, but it may be long enough for us to get a letter-writing campaign started to try to save the space shuttle and as much of the rest of the NASA budget as possible. I was afraid something like this would happen with the new administration. . . .

As you can see, it is imperative that each of us immediately stop whatever we are doing and sit down and write to President Carter. We had hopes that his enlightened attitudes on some matters would flow over into the Space Program. Apparently his advisers are suggesting rather drastic cuts in the Space budget and we must act now to be heard. I quote my own letter to President Carter, mailed today, as an example:

It was with real alarm that I read an article in the news concerning the possibility of budget cuts for NASA's proposed budget for 1978. There can be no excuse for cutting an already miniscule budget for NASA in order to pump more money into programs which are giving no obvious return to the country. The Space Program has proven time and again to be financially, economically, educationally, and spiritually one of the finest programs which our country has undertaken. It would be a mistake

of the greatest proportions to cut NASA's Budget for 1978. In fact, it would behoove you and your experts to look more seriously at the NASA budget and consider raising the funds available for Space exploration and exploitation, rather than seeing it as an obvious place for cutting funds.

Rather than listening to your vice president, Mr. Mondale, who has been a foe of space for years, it would make sense to consult such other experts available to you as: Harrison Schmitt, Republican from New Mexico; Henry Jackson, Democrat from Washington; Jerry Brown, Democrat from California, etc.

I hope that in the next 30 days you will come to your senses about the space program and realize that it, above all other programs, can lift the American people to greater heights.

Finally, I quote the letter from our President, Graham Maughan:

It was with pleasure that I listened to your inaugural address in which you called for the American people to embody a "new spirit" for the coming years. Thus you might imagine my dismay upon reading a recent news release by Robert J. Wagman of the North American Newspaper Alliance in which he details the reactionary thinking of your budget advisors on the NASA request of the preceding Administration.

Since the beginning of the Space Revolution on October 4, 1957, the highest hopes, aspirations, and intellectual questions have been not only embodied symbolically in this nation's space program but have also been given concrete actualization. No people can hope to meet the challenges of the next ten years of nuclear war, ecocatastrophe, and social collapse with any degree of success unless it has the Vision to sustain the stresses to come. The expansion of human civilization from Earth throughout the Solar System within our own lifetimes (it has already begun!) is a Vision which instills the profoundest spiritual feelings in those who share it. As such, it is a source of supreme moral strength for the coming crises which the United States can only hope to forestall, not prevent.

Perhaps of more importance to the random individual than these psychological considerations are the CONCRETE, NUMEROUS, PRACTICAL benefits which have come to society through the exploration of outer space. In addition to the usual litany of thousands of lives saved and millions of dollars saved from much improved weather forecasting due to weather satellites, improved management techniques from the rigorous organizational requirements of space missions, miniaturized electronic circuitry stimulated by the space program, communications satellites, geological studies of other planets, one can also add the enormous rewards promised by space industrialization studies of Skylab and Salyut, earth resources surveying satellites, pollution monitoring, etc. Clearly, a program with a proven history of economic, scientific, cultural, and national security benefits rather than being cut back should, if anything, BE EXPANDED.

In conclusion, I advise you as a concerned American citizen to overrule your budget advisors' requests for cuts on the proposed 1978 NASA appropriations of \$4 billion. The nation cannot afford to weaken itself for the future by ill-advised, no matter how well-intentioned, cuts in a government agency as vital as the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Thank you for your time.

There you have it, folks. The news article, Robert's words of wisdom about writing immediately, and two responses to this fearful possibility.

Again, we thank Robert, urge all of you to write NOW, and close this MB hopeful that next issue we will be able to report better news of the progress of the Space Revolution.

(PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave, Washington DC 20005)

UNITED FOR OUR EXPANDED SPACE PROGRAMS

Editorial and National Offices

P.O. Box 7807
San Diego, California 92107

Antares Chamber

P.O. Box 27236
San Francisco, California 94127

Vega Chamber

628 Chapel Street
Hampton, Virginia 23669

Far Centaurus Chamber

P.O. Box 137
Clayton, Victoria
Australia 3168

To:

FIRST CLASS MAIL!